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represented on contemporary maps. The act organizing Nevada Territory provided that the western boundary should follow the mountains in case California should consent, but California never consented. When the attention of a well-known author was called not long ago to the inaccuracy of the maps in one of his books, he replied that he had nothing to do with the maps and that the publishers alone were responsible for them. Whether it is the publishers who are responsible for the maps in the school histories does not appear.

F. H. HODDER.

*A History of American Political Theories.* By CHARLES EDWARD MERRIAM, Ph.D. (New York: The Macmillan Company; London: Macmillan and Company. 1903. Pp. xv, 364.)

DR. MERRIAM is already known to those interested in the history of political theories by his doctoral dissertation, *A History of the Theory of Sovereignty since Rousseau*, and by magazine articles dealing respectively with the political views of Jefferson, Calhoun, and Paine. In the present work he has essayed to trace the course of political speculations in this country from early colonial times to the present day. He has given us, however, a sketch rather than a comprehensive history; indeed, to have done more within the limited number of pages occupied would have been impossible. Judged, then, from this standpoint, the work is excellent, and our criticisms of it will be found to be almost wholly based upon acts of omission and not upon those of commission. The language is clear and concise, though there are a number of unnecessary repetitions, the arrangement is logical, continuity in the various lines of development is sufficiently shown, and, most important of all, the direct relation of the theories to contemporaneous objective political conditions is made manifest.

The work begins with a chapter entitled "The Political Theory of the Colonial Period." This broad title, however, is hardly justified, for except for four pages given to the Quakers and an equal number to an account of the rise of democratic sentiments among the colonists, the discussion is limited to the political theories of the New England Puritans. A bare reference to the aristocratic utterances of Governor Spotswood of Virginia is all that is furnished us regarding the characteristic views of the Southern colonists. Furthermore, we are given no account of the political theories involved in the discussions as to the extent to which and the manner in which the English common law became a part of the private law of the colonies. In the account of the political theories of the Revolutionary period, which is the topic next taken up, an excellent exposition of the then current principles of natural laws and constitutional rights is presented, the gradual emphasizing of the former at the expense of the latter being well brought out. The theories of the Loyalists are, however, hardly adequately treated, Boucher being the only writer of that party who is even mentioned by name. Dr. Merriam cor-

rectly says that the Americans derived very little of their political thought from the French, and that Locke was their great authority. The influence of such continental writers as Grotius, Pufendorf, Burlamaqui, and Beccaria should, however, have been mentioned. John Wise's *A Vindication of the Government of New England Churches* should have been given the date 1717 instead of 1772. The third chapter bears the title "The Reactionary Movement," and outlines the views expressed in the Federal Convention, the *Federalist*, and the writings of John Adams and Alexander Hamilton. With independence an accomplished fact and political reconstruction the task of the time, doctrines of natural rights of course gave way to debates upon constitutional principles. To term this change reactionary would seem therefore hardly accurate. From a discussion of the Jeffersonian Democracy, to which the next chapter is devoted, a leap is made to an analysis of the dominant ideas of the Jacksonian era. The material here employed is almost exclusively the political practice and public utterances of the statesmen of the time. In concluding this chapter, Dr. Merriam very properly calls attention to the fact that despite the marked democratic advances in political practice since the time of Jefferson, there had been little change in political theories. The Jacksonian Democrats but put into force the ideas that the Jeffersonians had developed but had not attempted to realize. In Chapter VI. we have an admirably clear exposition of the political, or rather ethico-political, theories of the slavery controversy. The various theories that have been advanced since the beginning of our present government to support the divergent views regarding its nature are next taken up. Here again, we have a clear exposition, but one that is strangely incomplete. Brownson and Hurd are referred to once or twice, but no attempt is made to give an adequate statement of their theories. Mulford's *The Nation*, which in its day exercised a very considerable influence in exalting the idea of a national state as the highest political product of men, and as such entitled to their chiefest allegiance, receives but bare mention. Lieber's influence in the same direction, though noted, is not sufficiently emphasized. The constitutional writings of Bateman, Baldwin, and Duer, though enumerated in the list of authorities given at the end of the book, receive no consideration. Even Pomeroy is ignored. Professor Burgess's scientific analysis of the nature of the so-called federal state receives deserved mention. In the last two chapters, entitled respectively "Recent Tendencies" and "Conclusions," together aggregating only forty-four pages, we have a running comment upon political theories and political writings since the Civil War that is necessarily brief in the extreme.

As we have already said, it is to the author's credit that in his account of political theories he has not limited himself to an examination of formal political writings, but has sought his information from political practice as well. One most important source of information, however, he has almost wholly neglected. We refer to the opinions of the Federal Supreme Court. The reported arguments of the judges of this tribunal,

especially in the earlier decisions, are a mine of information not simply upon technical points of constitutional jurisprudence, but upon current political theories in general. Starting without a body of precedents to guide them, the eminent justices of this court were forced to go back to fundamental principles of political right for a solution of such questions as the nature of law, of sovereignty, of natural rights, of written constitutions, of citizenship, of international rights and responsibilities, of the distinction between executive, legislative, and judicial powers, and, finally, of the nature of the Union itself. Chief Justice Marshall in particular, as we well know, based all of his great decisions upon general political reasoning rather than upon legal precedents. The only reference made by Dr. Merriam to this great body of judicial opinion is the statement that it was permeated with the idea of a division of sovereign powers between the states and the Union.

Summing up, then, our opinion of the work, we repeat that its briefness, necessitating as it has omissions and inadequacies of treatment, is its one defect. What Dr. Merriam has given us is excellent, and leads us to express the hope that we are to continue to receive from him contributions in this field of political philosophy, which he has apparently selected for special study.

W. W. WILLOUGHBY.

*A History of Agriculture and Prices in England.* By JAMES E. THOROLD ROGERS. Vol. VII., 1703-1793. Edited by Arthur G. L. Rogers. (New York: Henry Frowde; Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1902. Two parts, pp. xv, 599; xv, 600-966.)

THE first two volumes of the *History of Agriculture and Prices* appeared in 1866. Sixteen years were occupied in the preparation of Volumes III. and IV., covering a large part of the crucial period in the history of prices (1401-1582). In his preface of 1882 Thorold Rogers declared that the portion of his work which remained was "on the whole, the clearest and easiest." Some justification for this optimistic view was afforded by the relatively speedy appearance, five years later, of Volumes V. and VI., one of the twin volumes, according to Rogers's usual practice, giving the statistical results and the commentary, while the other presented in serried columns the classified price entries which formed the basis of the work. This publication of 1887 brought the inquiry down to 1702, and there remained but the eighteenth century to investigate before reaching the self-appointed end of his labors. A considerable amount of material for this final section had been collected and tabulated before his death in 1890, enough at any rate to warrant the delegates of the Clarendon Press in requesting Thorold Rogers's son to complete the work. After repeated announcements and delays, the long-expected book has appeared, as Volume VII., Parts I. and II., "edited with sundry additions" by Arthur G. L. Rogers.